

Minutes of the Southeast PTO September 10, 2007

CALL TO ORDER: 7:03PM

IN ATTENDANCE: Norma Fisher-Doiron, Amy Chibeau, Monique Brown, Kim O'Keefe, Julie Brown, Dave Delaney, Margaret Morrison, Kimberly Clark, Bene Hartman, Karen Mitlitsky, Jen Schletter, Andrea Newton, Kimberly Christenson, Lesley Sweeney, Karen Sommer Andrea Newton, Leigh Ann Lemons, Nancy Gifford, Jen Schletter, Christiane Burkhard, Andrea Lennon, Esther Soffer Roberts

MILEAGE CLUB - Diane Hutton, Betsy Parker

Diane brought this program from her former school. She described what it is, how it is important, and the need for parental involvement. It is an option at recess to do laps (run, walk, skip). Each lap = 1/8 mile. After 2 ½ miles they get a Toe Token. It is totally voluntary. They want to keep it exciting for students as interest wanes over the year. Children earn an after school hike when they log over 25 miles. It is not scheduled on Recess Sports days. They need help taking pictures, punching cards, putting up bulletin boards, etc. There will be a letter coming home. 1st & 2nd grade are starting on the 17th of September on M & W, 3rd & 4th grade are starting the 18th and will be held on T & TH. It will run through November and starts again when the snow/mud is gone.

Mission Statement

Kim O'Keefe shared a draft mission statement for the PTO to encourage more participation in meetings and activities:

The Southeast PTO is a group of people comprised of parents, teachers and principal who work together to support the programs of Southeast and work toward continuous school improvement. Communication and support are the two primary goals of the PTO.

Goal 1: To help enhance communication (i.e. Parents' Hour, Parents' Communication Board, Open House display) between parents, teachers, Administrators and the Mansfield Board of Education.

Goal 2: To offer services for the school by providing:

- Financial support through donations and fund-raising events (i.e. Fall Carnival, Book Fair, gift wrapping)
- Parental support by volunteering to help organize and run designated school-wide events (i.e. enrichment clusters, Fun In Our Own Backyard, Special Persons' Day); and
- Individual support to teachers and staff during classroom activities and events (i.e. school concerts, 4th grade Native American Day, 1st grade Scarecrow event).

It is our belief that the PTO serves as a valuable link between home and school. All Southeast parents are automatically members of the PTO and are invited to attend monthly meetings and other special events. The PTO Officers for school year 2007-08 are:

President:	Kim O'Keefe
Vice President:	Kimberly Christenson
Secretary:	Monique Brown
Treasurer:	Lesley Sweeney

THANK YOU'S:

- Maria Kern thanked us for the \$250 EOSmith Scholarship. She will be attending Vassar College.
- The Curtis Family thanked us for the gift certificate to the Asian Bistro and the movie tickets.
- Henry & Mark Li Heng's family gave the school \$400. They have returned to Taiwan after a year in our school.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Norma Fisher Doiron

New Hires:

Sandra Burns .5 resource teacher

Connie Ziko Speech Language Pathologist

Ruth Sangree 4th grade teacher

Class sizes:

PREK 8/11

Kindergarten = 21/21

1st=14/15/16

2nd=14/15/16

3rd=14/14/15

4th=16/16/17

Total 243

Parent's Hour: Gordon Schimmel – "4 Schools Project" – Multimedia center part of it – Oct 18th 7 – 8:30 is the first meeting for community input.

Parent Advisory Committee – Norma wants to bring it back. The committee advises Norma about how to work with the staff on school improvement. It would meet once every two months or so.

There are 3 Actions plans for school – Teachers connect their plans to these goals. They are Academic Achievement, Character Education, & School Health & Safety.

There was a question about the year's Artist in Residency from Amy Chibeu – Norma stated that it is undecided as of yet but will have to do with citizenship & community.

Calendar of Events

Highlights:

September

19th Student/Class Photos

20th Celebrating the Constitution Assembly – Enrichment

29th Fall Carnival

TEACHER'S REPORT: Monique Brown

Nancy Banfield has shared that the school newsletter deadline is the 20th of this month. The American Cancer Society's local Relay for Life is this October 13 & 14. There is a Southeast Team looking for walkers, donations, luminaries & team members. It is a wonderful family event and a major fund raiser for fighting cancer. See Monique Brown or Sue Irvine for details.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Monique Brown

The PTO email distribution list is being circulated for corrections, deletions.

June's minutes were reviewed.

Motion for acceptance by: Andrea Newton

2nd by : Dave Delaney

All in Favor

TREASURER'S REPORT: Lesley Sweeney

Lesley reviewed the treasurer's report.

Highlights:

\$20,000 was raised last year – A lot came from monies no longer needed for the playscape.

"Stories for Southeast" are pre-purchased books that can be dedicated to the library for the cost of the book.

This year's budget has not yet been drawn up and approved.

We need to contact Joyce Meimers, the school librarian about the Kindergarten teeshirt response.

Motion to accept report: Amy Chibeau

Seconded by: Karen Sommer

All in Favor

FUNDRAISING REPORT: Karen Sommer

They need help from 5 – 9 to help with glow sticks at the fireworks this Saturday.

Norma will help into a Southeast Banner

Karen is working on developing a list of fundraising positions.

OTHER:

THIS YEAR'S PTO MEETINGS

Sept 10

Oct 1

Nov 5

Dec 3 (no meeting)

Jan 7

Feb 4

Mar 3

Apr 7

May 5

Jun 2

Fall Carnival: Karen Mitlitsky & Jen Schletter

The carnival is September 29th. They need volunteers. Norma suggested having a table at the parent pick up area to encourage signups for volunteers. Amy Chibeau suggested having a sign up at Open House next year. Amy suggested advertising in the Chronicle for the puppet show they are having at the carnival. Amy suggested contacting Barbara Vaughan to get the Girl Scouts to help out. There was a question about having a raffle. Could we look into buying \$25 from a local store for this and presenting it as something else (“a chance game”)?

Silent Auction - Kimberly Clark

They need help: Donation of goods & services, teacher activities and baskets, and volunteers to help with tally/distribution time.

G & L Christmas Barn has a program where you can pick a night proceeds to go back to the school.

Sue Harrington did an after school science workshop last year. She will be doing a daytime program this year but Norma has an intern that could organize the after school program until December. She will look into this.

Motion to adjourn: Kim O’Keefe

Motion seconded by: Amy Chibeau

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:10PM
RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY: MONIQUE M. BROWN
NEXT MEETING: October 1 , 2007